# **Big Cypress**

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

**Big Cypress National Preserve** Florida

33100 Tamiami Trail East Ochopee, FL 34141

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# 05/01/2011 Jarhead Fire Update

Southwest Area Incident Management Team Incident Commander: Dugger Hughes Public Information Officer: Jim Payne

# **General Information/Announcements:**

As of this morning, the Jarhead fire within Big Cypress National Preserve has burned approximately 9,400 acres in the central portion of the Preserve and is 15 percent contained. The Seminole fire team out of the Reservation to the north conducted initial attack on new fire starts in the northeastern area of the Preserve. Those two fires are under control at this time and will be monitored by the Southwest Incident Management Team that is now managing the Jarhead Fire. Incident priorities include protecting private property as well as threatened and endangered species, and natural and cultural resources. Resource advisors will work with crews to assess resource impacts and appropriate firefighting tactics.

#### Closures/Advisories:

For safety reasons all primary and secondary trails in the vicinity of the fire are closed to the public. The closure encompasses all areas west of Poppenhagars Camp, east of the Concho Billie Trail, south of I-75 and north of U.S. 41. This closure includes the Florida National Scenic Trail within the area.

# Today's Activity:

Today from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. crews will work to protect private property and keep the fire west of Oasis Trail, south of Little Deer area, and east of Monument and Monument Bypass Trails. Winds are from the east and direct fire lines will be constructed to keep the fire from advancing northwards.

# **Public Safety Message:**

Be aware of and observe area closures in effect due to aerial and fire fighting operations. Drivers on U.S. 41 may experience smoke and should exercise extreme caution while driving. Please slow down as firefighting equipment and staff are using U.S. 41.

#### Partners/Cooperators

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Everglades National Park, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Ochopee Fire District, Everglades City Fire District, Florida Division of Forestry, Collier County Emergency Operations Center, Collier County Sheriff's Department

### **Quick Fire Facts:**

Date started: 04/27/2011

Location: Center of Big Cypress National Preserve

Percent Contained: 15%

Estimated Containment Date: none at this time

Cause: lightning

Size: approximately 9,400 acres (After on-the-ground assessment, recalculated from an estimated 10,500)

Number of Personnel: 75

Equipment: 3 Type 6 Engines, 3 swamp buggies

Aircraft: **3 helicopters** Injuries to Date: **none** 

Cost to Date: \$75,000 (as of 4/30)

#### **For More Information**

http://www.nps.gov/bicy/naturescience/fire-activity-and-related-closures.htm http://www.nps.gov/fire/